

Message Text

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42

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AF-05 EUR-06 CIAE-00 SS-07 IO-09 EB-05

IGA-02 PM-03 NEA-05 /102 W
----- 070976

R 261730Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1377

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY ROME

SECDEF WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

UNCLAS NOUAKCHOTT 657

AIDAC

EO 11652: NA

SUBJECT: GIRM REQUEST FOR AIRLIFT SURVEY; SITREP GRAIN DELIVERIES

REF: STATE 146621

PARIS FOR RAICHT

ABIDJAN FOR WILD

BRUSSELS FOR USEC/WENDT

ROME FOR FODAG

1. APPRECIATE INFO REFTTEL. RE VISIT HERE OF TRANSPORT
SURVEY TEAM, WHILE THIS EMBASSY WELCOMES ANY AND ALL TECH
ASSISTANCE, I AM CONCERNED THAT WE NOT OVERWHELM GIRM WITH
NUMBERS SUCH AS I UNDERSTAND WILL BE MAURITANIAN INVOLVED IN
PROPOSED TEAM. MAURITANIAN RELIEF EFFORT BEING MASTERMINDED
BY MINISTER HEALTH WHO HAS FULL TIME ASSISTANCE ONLY ONE
CLERK. THEY ARE REMARKABLE TEAM BUT ARE UNLIKELY HAVE REPLIES
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TO DETAILED QUESTIONS WHICH I ANTICIPATE OUR HIGHLY SPECIALIZED

TEAM WILL EXPECT TO HAVE ANSWERED. THAT IS FURTHER REASON WHY I CONSIDER MORE USEFUL A LESS FORMAL CONTACT BY DATT/DAKAR.

2. REGRET UNABLE ANSWER DEFINITELY WHETHER FRENCH AND SPANISH AIRLIFTS WILL MEET GIRM NEEDS OVER NEXT TWO CRITICAL MONTHS. ACCESS BY TRUCKS STILL POSSIBLE BY TRACKS ACROSS COUNTRY ALMOST ALL LOCATIONS BUT THESE COULD BE CUT BY RAINS AT ANY TIME IN AREA WEST OF KIFFA. RAINS CONTINUE ISOLATE SELIBABY AS WELL AS MAGHAMA, SMALLER CENTER BETWEEN KAEDI AND SELIBABY. MINHEALTH TELLS ME HIS TRUCK FLEET STRAINED TO UTMOST. BARRING HEAVY RAINS, SCHEDULED AUGUST DELIVERIES, UP TO MID-MONTH, AT NOUAKCHOTT WHARF SHOULD BE MANAGEABLE. THIS IS LARGELY AS RESULT UNHAPPY NEWS THAT CANADIAN SHIPMENT OF 5,400 TONS CEREALS SCHEDULED FOR EARLY AUGUST ARRIVAL HAS BEEN FURTHER DELAYED AND WILL NOT NOW ARRIVE PRIOR OCTOBER/NOVEMBER.

3. CHINESE RICE SHIPMENTS (5,000 TONS) NOW BEING DISCHARGED NOUAKCHOTT. 3,000 TONS OF CHINESE WHEAT EXPECTED IN COURSE NEXT WEEKS BUT NO ETA SET. NO ETA WHATSOEVER FOR IRAQI SHIPMENTS.

4. GIRM ONLY DECIDED JULY 25 ON USE OF SPANISH AIRLIFT AND THEN ON CONDITION GOS WILL COVER ALL OPERATING EXPENSES. UN RES REP NOTIFYING MADRID TODAY. FRENCH PLANES CONTINUE MISSION LIFTING TOTAL 137.5 TONS POWDERED MILK TOGETHER WITH SOME MEDICINES AND VITAMINS. AM INFORMED THAT NORD ATLAS HAS SUCCESSFULLY DELIVERED TO BOTH NEMA AND SELIBABY AND THAT OFFLOADING WAS DONE EXPEDITIOUSLY AT BOTH LOCATIONS. (3.6 MT PER SORTIE TO SELIBABY AND 2 MT TO NEMA).

5. FRENCH EMBASSY ADVISES THAT BOTH NORDS WILL REMAIN HERE UNTIL END OF JULY AND THEN ONE WILL BE MOVED ELSEWHERE IN SAHELIAN ZONE.

6. MINHEALTH SAID JULY 25 THAT FAO CHARTERED C-130 ON SEED AIRLIFT HAS NOW OPERATED SUCCESSFULLY INTO KIFFA AND KAEDI AIRPORTS. ACCORDING HIS REPORT ONE SORTIE LANDED THIRTY TONS AT KAEDI. (I COMMENTED THAT IF ONE PLANE HAD CARRIED THIS LARGE A LOAD IT WAS PROBABLY STILL UNDERGROUND AT KAEDI STRIP). ACCORDING RES REP, WHOSE OFFICE NOT BEING KEPT EFFECTIVELY INFORMED BY FAO ON C-130 AIRLIFT, TOTAL DELIVERIES UNCLASSIFIED

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OF 200 MT MILLET SEEDS WILL BE COMPLETED THIS WEEK AT AIRPORTS OF KAEDI, KIFFA AND AOUN. MURPHY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISASTER RELIEF, AIR TRANSPORTATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 JUL 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973NOUAKC00657
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: NOUAKCHOTT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973079/aaaaagpz.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION AID
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 STATE 146621
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Dec-2001 by thomasv0>; APPROVED <13 FEB 2002 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GIRM REQUEST FOR Airlift SURVEY; SITREP GRAIN DELIVERIES
TAGS: SWEL, MR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005